



Vol. IV No. 11 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section A April 2011

Robert the Bruce Heritage Centre now a reality in Renton, Scotland

Deborah Bruce Gottlieb, FSA Scot – Roswell, Georgia
Operations Officer – Family of Bruce International, Inc., www.familyofbruce.org &
deb@familyofbruce.org Southeast Commissioner of the name of Bruce

“Strathleven Artizans are a group of volunteers, passionate about Scottish history, who seek to promote the history of Renton village and in particular it’s most famous resident King Robert Bruce who was King of Scots from 1306 to 1329. Other than Bannockburn (June 1314), the place most associated with the warrior king was indeed Renton.”... www.strathlevenartizans.com. Renton Village in West Dumbartonshire, Scotland is the geographical location of ancient Cardross where King Robert lived and died.

A dream of the Strathleven Artizans was to build a heritage centre in Renton to honor Robert the Bruce, his generals, and the many people who supported the quest for a free Scotland. Lord Elgin, the 11th Earl of Elgin and 15th Earl of Kincardine, Knight of the Thistle, and Chief of

the name and family of Bruce is their Patron.

On March 27, 2010, the 704th anniversary of the enthronement of King Robert I, their dream was realized when the Robert the Bruce Heritage Centre was opened at Renton Village. Present at the ceremony was Lord and Lady Elgin, Charles, Lord Bruce, and Benedict Bruce son of Lord Bruce and Grandson of the Earl and Countess.



The opening ceremony was preceded by a march and leading the procession were the Strathleven Artizans in the

form of King Robert the Bruce and his Queen followed by generals, soldiers, dignitaries, and the Dumbarton District Pipe Band. The Centre is a converted ScotRail station which was adopted and trans-

Continued on page 5



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Miss Narra, The
 Wonder Cat, is ready
 for April Showers...and
 for fun in the rain with
 her new friend, Mr.
 Rubber Duckie.



A letter from your editor....

Are volunteers important?

Elsewhere in this publication you'll read a little blurb about a couple of Highland games which will not take place this year. I can think of half a dozen others that used to be wonderful, magical events...but which will never be again.

The saddest thing about all of these is that, one at a time, I've read that the main reason the games will be no more is that no responsible, hard working volunteers could be found.

I'm sure all of you know that if it "takes a village to raise a child" it takes a "great big city to put on a Highland games." From volunteering to pick up trash on games day to working on the myriad details of acquiring judges and competitors for any of the sanctioned competitions or planning, staffing and running the sponsor's tent...to taking bags of ice around to the clan tents and a (not exaggerating) million other details - the event obviously cannot take place without these people we call volunteers.

I do know of an event or two that is run by paid "event organizers." None of the ones I have ever attended have ever been "right." There is just something missing when people who know zilch about things Scottish and who have never even attended a Scottish Games are in charge. Most of those are gone. A few of the event organized games still sort of limp along.

Event organized games staff sometimes do very strange things. The most bizarre thing I remember is a games which had boxes and boxes of their games t-shirts stacked at the t-shirt selling venue. The paid staff sat at the tent all day doing nothing - and never even unpacked the t-shirts so they could be sold. (This is absolutely true.)

Another time, a very popular Scottish singer and I were both booked to present programs at an event which was put on by an event planner company. The weather was not hot, it was **HOT**. Our venue was a flatbed truck in the broiling sun with no provisions at all for an audience closer than maybe 500 feet. Her husband held an umbrella over her head as she sang to nobody. When it was time for my presentation, there was a group of Scottish Country Dancers using the truck to rehearse (They brought their own tarp shade)...so, I never even got a chance to present my

talk to the grass and sky.

"Paid staff" also means that the event has to be held not for the purpose of a scholarship or to benefit someone working on Scottish projects or any of a long list of worthwhile endeavors, but simply to pay the event company people.

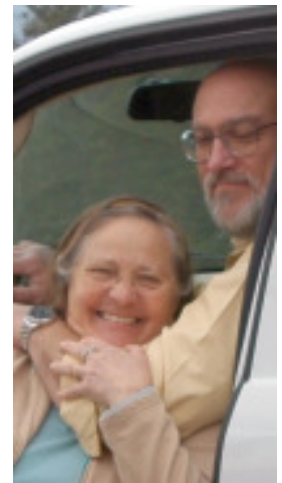
I've read of a few Scottish games who were put on by individuals who were doing the games as a "for profit" event. I've never ever heard of a for profit Highland games that was even moderately successful. All of those are now gone, so far as I know.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of a Highland Games. If you live within a decent distance of the site of a games, please think about your favorite event at a Highland games - be it the Highland Dancing or the Heavy Athletics. If you don't know enough about the event to feel as if you could be in charge of putting it on - think again! You will have plenty of direction and at the end of your first year, you'll know how to do that event perfectly.

To me, half of the fun of doing something you know nothing or not much about is learning more about it. I promise, you'll make wonderful new friends and become intimately aware of all the nuances of Scottish fiddling or pipe bands or drummers, etc., etc., etc.

I've never lived close enough to a games to actually volunteer myself. However, almost all by myself for about 16 years, I put on a Scottish event that was limited to 400 people - but which was an entire week-end of programs, a Ceilidh (I might say, the only real Ceilidh I've ever seen or heard of.), two big dinners for 400, entertainment, prizes, etc., etc., etc.

I do know the amount of detail that goes into the planning of a Scottish event (Bottled water for athletes and Scottish Country Dancers...an overhead projector for this program presenter, a music system or slide projector for others...a coat rack with 7 coat holders - not 6 nor 8, but SEVEN for another, etc., etc., etc.) I do know about figuring out venues for everything and working with the caterer and florist and



Continued on page 19

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| • MacNeilage | • Neil |
| • Macneilage | • Neal |
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whom you have come.**

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| • MacGuigan | • Mcguigan |

Robert The Bruce Heritage Center, *continued from page 1*

formed by the organization into a remarkable exhibition to honor Robert the Bruce and his supporters. The Artizans volunteer at the Centre to host visitors and educate them about the life and times of our ancestors who dedicated their lives to free Scotland. The members also spend much of their time visiting schools, festivals, and other events to teach and commemorate the history of Robert the Bruce and his supporters.

The focal point of the Centre is the Bannockburn Ceiling by artist Duncan Brown. Other works of art include paintings of Robert the Bruce, his Generals and their Coats of Arms, glass works, 14th century artifacts and memorabilia including battle weapons, and armor.

In his later years, King Robert and his family settled in Cardross which is now the present day Renton Village and seven miles from modern day Cardross. The King lived in his Manor House named Pillinflath (meaning Pavilion of the Great Hero) at the Mains of Cardross and died in his own bed at Pillinflath on June 7th 1329. A few years ago the area was excavated to build some homes, and in doing so 14th Century ancient foundations were unearthed which may have been the foundations of King Robert's buildings. Experts were brought in to authenticate the find and time was afforded to dig out the priceless "cement". Pieces of the foundation can be seen at the Centre along with many other artifacts of the time.

When my husband Ben and I visited Scotland in September of 2010, we scheduled a

visit to the Robert the Bruce Heritage Centre. As we arrived, we were warmly greeted by Duncan Thomson, dressed for battle in his chainmail regalia. Duncan is Chairman of the Strathleven Artizans and the inspiration behind the Centre. It was obvious they had prepared and were looking forward to our visit as much as we were looking forward to visiting them. We met Jim Tannock, Treasurer, and his wife Lynn; Paul Hunter who portrays King Robert I very effectively and his wife Susan; Jeanette Ryan who portrays Robert I's

sister Mary; as well as Brenda Cameron and Elspeth Crocket who are key members of the group.

As part of their generous hospitality, we were treated to delicious sandwiches, pastries, and tea!! As we were transferred back in time, the Artizans showed and told us of their achievements in the short

time the Centre had been open. It was obvious to us that their spirit and love of history enabled them to realize all they had accomplished.

We learned about the Bruce Oak which was a sapling 700-1000 years ago on Bruce's Estate. It sadly toppled after a fire in 2005; however, the

Strathleven Artizans were able to recover the timber and they have made items from it, and plan to use the timber for a new throne at the Centre! The tree is listed in a book, "100 Heritage Trees of Scotland" and was 29 feet in circumference and 18 feet tall at the time it fell! I do cherish my key chain and a carved oak acorn from the tree.

In addition to celebrating the life and

Continued on page 6



*A group photo to commemorate the visit.
L-R: Jim Tannock, Deb Bruce Gottlieb, Ben Gottlieb,
Paul Hunter as King Robert I, Jeannette Ryan as Mary,
Duncan Thomson, and Susan Hunter*

achievements of King Robert, the Artizans participate in many activities to honor his closest knights and companions. Each year, the Strathleven Artizans travel to



*The Earl
and
Countess
of Elgin
at the
Opening
ceremony*

Teba, Spain for a festival to honor the Good Sir James Douglas. As many of you know, after King Robert's death, Sir James honored a deathbed request from the King to take his heart on a voyage to the Holy Land. However, he and a number of others were killed in Teba, Spain during a battle. King Robert's heart and the remains of the Good Sir James were then returned to Scotland for burial.

While celebrating the close relationships between the Scots and Americans, we focused on how King Robert and the kingdom of his time were influential on the future and on democracy. A book, "For Freedom Alone" by Edward J. Cowan (professor of Scottish History at the University of Glasgow) was shared with us. It is an excellent expose on the Declaration of

Arbroath, and a chronological essay on the people and political events of the time. It also discusses the connections between the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320 and the American Declaration of Independence in 1776. It is so interesting I have worn out the pages on my copy!

As we concluded our visit, we said goodbyes to our new friends with a response from them of "Haste Ye Back", and yes, we certainly look forward to coming back to the Centre and to the Renton area. It proved to be another day in our visit that we realized needed much more time to spend at the Centre and in the area that was the home of King Robert and his family after the wars and his gallant efforts to free his country.

The Strathleven Artizans and Renton Village are proud of their connection to King Robert, the Heritage Centre, and the Bruce Trail. I certainly recommend accessing their websites for much more information and visiting the Centre when in Scotland. You will find it to be a real treat!!

Visit both: www.strathlevenartizans.com and www.robertthebruceheritagecentre.co.uk



More on page 7

Duncan Brown painting the Generals – The Good Sir James Douglas, Lennox, Keith, and Randolph. Below is the finished ceiling



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Going, Going, GONE...

* The Tallahassee, FL, Scottish Highland Games will NOT be held in 2011.

* The Hendersonville, NC, Highland Games will NOT be held in 2011.

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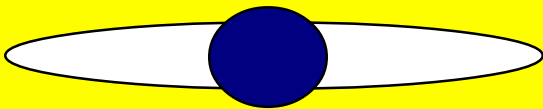
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Lessons must be learned from The Gathering 2009 event's money woes

Lessons must be learned from The Gathering 2009 event

The report into the circumstances which led to the liquidation of the Gathering 2009 Ltd with debts of £726,000, was published today by the Public Audit Committee.

In its Report: The Gathering 2009, the committee identifies key lessons it says must be learned by the Scottish Government and public sector bodies, if public money is to be used effectively in the delivery of events of national significance.

The committee has recommended that the Scottish Government undertake a review of its procedures for awarding grants and the governance arrangements surrounding support for major events, sharing any lessons learned with other public sector bodies.

The committee is also concerned that no internal audit of the Gathering 2009 has been undertaken and therefore also recommends the Scottish Government reviews its processes for initiating and undertaking internal audits of projects which experience financial difficulties, are high risk or high value.

Committee Convener Hugh Henry MSP said: "We believe that poor communication at key points throughout the planning, delivery and aftermath of The Gathering 2009 event meant that sometimes decisions were taken without access to all of the available information. The Scottish Government should have told the steering group of the £180,000 loan to the private sector company delivering the event."

He continued, "We also recommend that it reconsider its approach to joining any such steering groups in future. In considering the attempts to save the Gathering event after it made a loss, we were seriously concerned at the inconsistent and contradictory evidence we received."

Henry said, "In particular, Council witnesses' evidence on its discussions of the content and timing of its press release was contradictory. This press release would have led many creditors of the Gathering com-

pany to mistakenly believe their outstanding invoices would be paid by the arm's length Council company DEMA (Destination Edinburgh Marketing Alliance Ltd)."

He also said, "We have invited the Council to clarify its lines of accountability and its procedures for clearing press releases and communicating with DEMA."

"We were also unable to reconcile the inconsistent evidence we received on the meeting between the Permanent Secretary and a Council official where it was proposed that DEMA may take on the Gathering event. No minutes were taken of this meeting," he said.

The MSP said, "In order to avoid such misunderstandings in future, we recommend the Scottish Government urgently improves its procedures for minuting decisions and actions agreed at meetings."

Although acknowledging the time constraints faced by the Scottish Government, the committee is

unclear whether all of the possible alternatives to further public sector funding were fully explored before the Scottish Government concluded that additional public sector funding remained the only option.

The committee also made other recommendations for the Scottish Government including: It should review its due diligence procedures and in particular seek relevant financial information from its public sector partners before it considers providing such loans to limited liability companies. It should provide best practice guidance on the governance arrangements, including the level and detail of financial information provided to, steering groups charged with overseeing the delivery of projects and events.

The Permanent Secretary should review the tests by which he may be notified of novel or contentious transactions.

Background: The Gathering 2009 was a signature
Continued on page 19



The Other 70%

Judi Lloyd, president Scottish District Families Assoc., starshipraleigh@aol.com

When the Renaissance movement infiltrated Scotland in the mid-15th century, Scotland was ruling itself with its own king, James III - the grandson of Robert the Bruce - and had its own parliament, which had instituted regular taxation, an army and navy, and increased emphasis on law rather than kinship in the settlement of disputes. At the time an uneasy truce existed between Scotland and England.

The Renaissance, which means rebirth, was a rebirth of the classics of Rome and Greece during the 15th through the 17th centuries. During this time the printing press was invented and these classics could be reproduced and translated much more quickly than by the previous method of hand printing copies of manuscripts.

After 1460 ideas rapidly spread throughout Europe. It became the golden age of art (including literature) and invention.

James III was a Stuart who had one of the longer lines of royalty, able to trace their line back to the first Gaelic king of Scotland. His was in fact one of the oldest pedigrees in Europe, much older than that of the reigning Tudors in England. This 'pedigree' was an important asset in Renaissance Europe. Royal courts were the primary forces behind the Renaissance movement in Britain. Sort of like keeping up with the Joneses.

Earlier, during the reign of James I (from 1424 to 1437) universities such as the ones at Aberdeen and

Glasgow, as well as St. Andrews were founded, but most references to the Renaissance in Scotland refer to the reign of James IV who became king in 1488 at the age of 15. If you were to see the Scots of that era they would appear no different from their English,

Spanish, and French peers. True, the Highlander was uneducated, poor, considered barbaric, but the Lowlanders and city dwellers were on a par with any of their European neighbors in dress and in education.

Scotland's royalty had always married foreign royalty to forge or keep alliances, so much of Europe's culture was introduced through these foreigners. Trading with France, Burgundy, and Flanders also brought continental ideas to Scotland. Though the movement may have begun in the reign of James III it

reached its apex during the reign of James IV, who was the peer of Henry the VIII, whose sister Margaret Tudor he married in 1503. He was 16 years her senior. In England the Renaissance came late. Henry the VIII is said to be the first to embrace it. He was instrumental in bringing culture to the English Court. But it was during the reign of his younger daughter, Elizabeth in the mid 1500s where the Renaissance reached its heights.

During James IV's reign, as I said, the Renaissance reached its peak with many classics being trans-



Continued on page 26



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Dolly Parton promises free books to Scotland's vulnerable children

SHE is an unlikely answer to the problem of literacy levels among Scotland's most vulnerable young children.

But Dolly Parton, the rhinestone country music superstar, has promised every child in care in Scotland a free book every month until they reach their fifth birthday.

Parton has joined with the Scottish Government and the Scottish Book Trust to bring her Imagination Library to Scotland.

Launched in 1995 to combat poor levels of child literacy in her home state, Tennessee, the scheme has spread around the world to 1,300 communities. But its arrival in Scotland will be the first time it has been rolled out on a national level.

Parton said: "I started the programme because so many of my own family and neighbours, who were poor people that had to work in the fields, didn't get an opportunity to go to school."

"I am thrilled to be a part of this wonderful effort. When I started the Imagination Library in my home town, I never dreamed that one day we would be helping Scottish kids.

"Much of my music has been inspired by Scotland, so it's only right that we are now in a position to bring more joy into the lives of the nation's looked-after children."

The Scottish project is due to start by early summer, with books chosen by a committee of childhood development, literacy and education experts.

Children's minister Adam Ingram said the scheme aimed to ensure looked-after children were given some of the same life chances as others.

"Research also shows that children whose parents and carers talk to them frequently have better language skills than those who do not and that the presence of books in the home can have an important impact on long-term achievement," he said.

Marc Lambert, chief executive of the Scottish Book Trust, which runs the successful Bookbug book-gifting programme with the Scottish Government, said:

"The children who will receive these books have lives which have been disrupted and they don't have many possessions of their own.

"The books will be a key possession for them. It is most important that children in care are getting access to books and stories which someone can read to them to form emotional bonds."

He added: "A worldwide study across 27 countries showed having books in the house is one of the most important prerequisites for a successful life and is often linked to educational attainment."

Edinburgh-based author Alexander McCall Smith praised Parton's initiative, saying: "I am completely overwhelmed with admiration for something like this. It is a wonderful gesture which will mean so much to children who may not have very much in their lives. The important thing about a book is that it can stay with you forever."



Back in my radio days when I was Promotions Director and General Flunkey at WMOP in Ocala, Florida, I would sit and listen to Dolly Parton's lyrics and just be in awe. I am sure that Ms. Parton will someday be known as one of the great lyricists and poets of our time. As far as I am concerned, her lyrics to A Coat of Many Colors are simply genius. I Will Always Love You is so beautiful it makes you cry - as I do each and every time I hear it...yet Dolly Parton is also a very real person who lets you get to know her each and every time she writes a song.

For her to share the joy of reading with children is so much needed in this day of kids in the ninth grade who cannot read cursive - and I am a full blown, genuine substitute teacher who knows these things - for Dolly Parton to share the love of books is almost like she is spreading sunshine to children in a great many places!

Thank you, Miz Dolly!

A Highlander And His Books.....

Robert Burns: The Tinder Heart

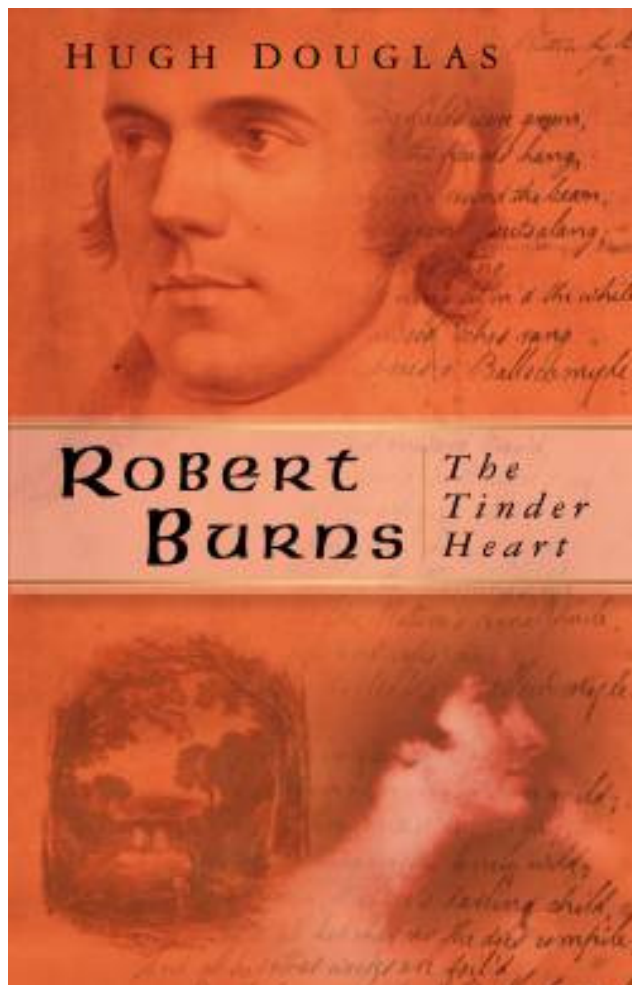
(ISBN 0-7509-1213-8) By **Hugh Douglas**

Reviewed By Frank R. Shaw, FSA Scot, Dawsonville, GA

Hugh Douglas is a man with a pen who has a way with words as did Scott, Stevenson and Burns. Yes, in my book, he ranks with the best of them, and after you have read his works, you will think so yourself! Like Burns, he was born in Ayrshire, and also like the poet, he is the son of a farmer. One will find family members of Hugh Douglas dating back to Burns' time buried not far from the gravesite of William Burns, father of Scotland's national bard, in the auld kirkyard. Educated at George Watson College in Edinburgh and at the University of Aberdeen, Douglas says that while in college he "wasted a lot of time but enjoyed himself immensely and managed to squeeze in an M.A. degree." Sounds like he does not take himself too seriously and that makes him my kind of man!

Hugh Douglas makes his living writing biographies and social histories, mostly telling wonderful stories of Burns, Flora MacDonald, and Prince Charlie. News flash: Publication of *The Private Passions of Bonnie Prince Charlie* is scheduled for 13 March 2003, and his best selling and critically acclaimed biography, *Flora MacDonald: The Most Loyal Rebel*, will be out 17 April 2003. Jot these dates down and pop over to your favorite bookstore for copies.

When you read *The Tinder Heart*, you will discover that the author's great love is Burns. His other books on Burns only add fuel to that fire! The "overflowing love life" of Burns which greatly influenced his poetry is told by this author with grace and style! Among the 15 books Mr. Douglas has written are *Robert Burns - A Life*, *Portrait of the Burns Country*, and *The Burns Super Companion* (on how to organize a Burns cel-



earthlink.net tinder heart was set alight easily.”

His favorite?
“That’s a hard question
to answer, but I think I
like the melody of the song he wrote
Continued on page 17

jurascot@earthlink.net

must go for the tender beauty of the song he wrote

when he and Jean Armour, the woman he married and loved so dearly, were parted:

Of a' the airts the wind can blaw, (directions, blow)

I dearly like the west;

For there the bonie lassie lives, (fair)

The lassie I lo'e best. (love)

There wild-woods grow, and rivers row, (roll)

And monie a hill between, (many)

But day and night my fancy's flight

Is ever wi my Jean. (with)

"Could true love be more beautifully expressed? I doubt it." (Parens above are inserted compliments of Burns scholar, Thomas Keith.)

In addition to the books I review, I currently read two or three books a month from my collection on Burns. And, I can state without hesitation that Hugh Douglas has written one of the finest books on the Bard that I have ever read. One has to be careful what you recommend to your wife to read. Yet, *The Tinder Heart* which deals with the total Burns - his life, his poems and his songs - was recommended by me to her. It is that good! This is the easiest book review I have ever written because the work of the author is so good. In fact, his research is excellent.

One day I hope to sit with Hugh Douglas for a cup of coffee, a meal or a wee dram, maybe all three, and it will be my honor to pick up that tab. I am not easily impressed, but I deeply respect his scholarship, devotion and loyalty to Burns the poet and man. He does not sugarcoat his feelings about Burns or bury the bad while accentuating the good. He draws a picture of this man who has come to mean so much to so many of us without being too sweet about Robert Burns. As the artist he is, he paints us a picture of Burns, warts and all, but gently reminds us that Burns was a work in progress which, unfortunately, was never completed because of his untimely death. Hugh Douglas

has personally helped me complete the picture of Burns in my own heart and mind. When the roll call is sounded for those who see Burns as the man and poet that I think Burns saw himself to be, Hugh Douglas will be at the front of the line.

Moreover, the author has the gift of writing to make the man in the street feel at home with Burns, revealing that he has not forgotten his roots in Ayrshire, the land of Burns. I admire that in any man or woman. Then to, his scholarship and writing style appeal to the scholar and the university student. Not many authors or scholars have that ability or gift. Locally, Emory University offers evening classes, and if Douglas ever showed up to teach a class on Burns, I would be the first in line to sign up. I would camp out all night

for that honor, something I've never considered doing for any artist, and that is what I consider Hugh Douglas to be.

What I love about the author is that he does not try to impress you as to how smart he is or how many "dictionary words" he knows. You do not need a Scots dictionary in one hand while reading *The Tinder Heart* in the other. I have read Hugh Douglas for years and have all but a couple of his books. I think

I can speak from my heart and from first hand knowledge that Mr. Douglas is one of Scotland's finest authors, and he has proven it again with *The Tinder Heart*. In my opinion, if Burns was alive today and had read Douglas' fifteen books, I can almost hear him say, as he raises his glass in honor of the author, "Hugh Douglas, aye, he's a man for a' that."

The new paperback edition of Douglas' book will be published to coincide with Burns Night, 25 January 2003. Along with the set of proofs I received from the publisher was the proposed book jacket. It is most attractive, very sensitively done and a real eye catcher. What a great treat this book is for all Burnsians, old and new, and those who want to be.

Flowers of the Forest

Tribute to Delores Sutherland

Dolores Sutherland, Clan Sutherland member# L19 passed away Jan.3, 2011 at the age of 90. Dolores was the wife of Past President Vernon Sutherland and mother of current Vice-President Arthur Sutherland. She is survived by her three sons, Arthur, Paul and David and daughter-in-law Debbie. Dolores was a lifelong resident of Charleroi, PA and was able to reside in the house of her childhood in Mapleview until the ill-effects of a stroke forced her to move to a nursing home in 2009. She was a daughter of Victor and Pauline Duboy Rehula. The Rehula family was long known for owning and operating one of the original photographic studios in the heart of the Mon Valley. Dolores was lovingly known as one of the "Rehula Twins" in the Mon Valley. Dolores and her twin Dorothy were co-beauty queens in their teen years and later received national recognition after giving birth to both of their first born children on the same day at the same hospital on St. Patrick's in 1948 after having been married at the same time and place nine months earlier. Dolores devoted her life to her family and will be missed more than words can tell.

Submitted by Arthur Sutherland

Catherine Wylie Hopkins (Taylor) Schafer, born Feb 27, 1914 and died Jan. 11, 2011, known to her loving family and friends as Catsby, was born in Port Deposit, MD, daughter of John Thomas C. Hopkins, Jr. and Florence Penney Hopkins. She was the oldest member of Clan Sutherland.

Catsy dreamt of art school but went to nursing school. She was able to pursue both interests through-

out her life. She graduated from Union Memorial Hospital as an RN in 1935.

In 1938, she married William N. Taylor, who took her to the Panama Canal Zone where she raised three children and took up nursing again at the military hospital in Fort Clayton.

Following the death of her beloved husband at age 44, Catsby remained in the Canal Zone, and five years later, she met and married Lt. Col. Vernon L. Schafer. They chose San Diego for his retirement, and Catsby

worked at the Naval Hospital starting in the late 1960's and helped create their first Coronary Care Unit.

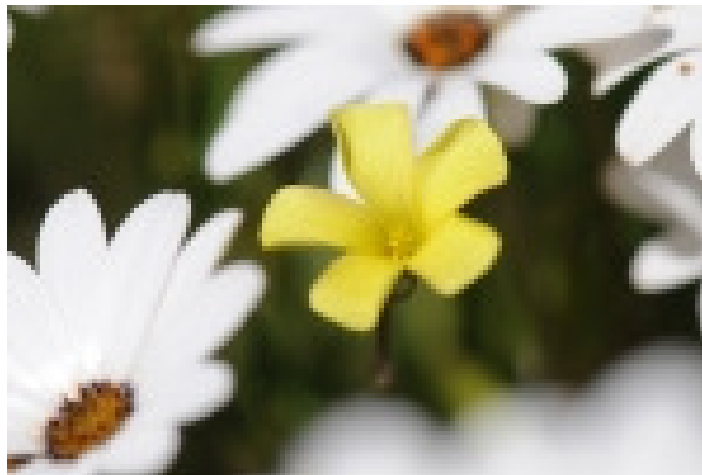
She received a post-graduate degree from USD and was also an active member of the Balboa Park Ladies Golf Group, even being honored with a tournament in her name.

Catsy's great passion was genealogy which she pursued for 70 years. She turned her love of art to the study and painting of Coats of Arms.

Both husbands predeceased her along with her son, Michael.

She is survived by her daughters, Layne Ashton (Tom) of Tarpon Springs, FL, and Susan Pitney (Louis), of San Diego; seven grandchildren, Clarke Pitney (Rocio), Layne Vann (Christopher), William Pitney (Julie), Jeffrey Pitney (Catherine), and Nico Pitney (Karina), Michael Taylor (Annie), September Schubilske (Marty); and nineteen great-grandchildren.

She was a woman who inspired love and admiration from every generation. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church or the San Diego Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired.



Sutherland's plan for 2011 AGM in Charleston, South Carolina this Sept.

It is time to start planning for the 2011 Clan Sutherland AGM!

It will be held on the 17th of September in Charleston, South Carolina, at the Boone Hall Plantation.

Please mark your calendars, details will be announced at a later date.

Visit for complete details:

<http://www.clansutherland.org/>



A letter from your editor, *continued from page 3*

the guy who is bringing lights for the parking lot which, for some dumb reason, has no lights. Pins, t-shirts, the lady who makes the chocolates - themed to match our annual theme - on and on and on.

I am the World's Expert on waiting until the Friday the event started that evening to do the program, for fear someone would cancel, change what they were doing or any number of a million things that would make the program be incorrect.

Never, in the years that I did the event, was the program completely perfect. Somehow, within half an hour of completing - copying, collating, folding - the program, SOMEONE would change SOMETHING.

The Gathering woes, *continued from page 13*
event of Homecoming Scotland 2009. The Gathering 2009 was developed, organised and delivered by a private company, The Gathering 2009 Ltd. The company received public sector grants of £490,000 as well as a short term loan of £180,000 from the Scottish Government.

EventScotland, Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothians, and City of Edinburgh Council formed a steering group with the directors of the Gathering 2009 Ltd.

The Scottish Government did not join the steering group.

The Gathering 2009 took place on 25 and 26 July and comprised a clan gathering, Highland Games and pageant.

After the event the company made a loss of £516,000 which, on 27 January 2010, resulted in the company going into liquidation with £382,000 owed to six public sector bodies and £344,000 owed to 103 private sector organisations.

I did have wonderful volunteers who came in all year and worked on the decorations for the dinners doing things like cutting out teapots from wallpaper sample books or making dozens and dozens of black cats or copying on parchment graphics of Robert Burns and folding them into candle shades, etc. ...and an assistant in my office who could help in a pinch. I was fortunate to have "prisoner guys" who could paint magnolias and move heavy things and set up dining rooms for 400. At the last, I would have a few reluctant volunteers from the church who would help put all of our decorations in place - all the while complaining that the decorations looked like "trash." Blowing up helium balloons was always interesting, too. (Our decorations were always cheap, homemade and when in place looked like a million dollars!)

And, of course, there had to be a crew for cleaning up after the dinners. I'll never forget Britt Hume and Cliff Robertson with a big, black garbage bag "bussing" the tables...and Diana Gabaldon doing the same thing.

So, I know the agony of not enough volunteers and of staying up all night working on the 21-step process of making our little peg clothespin Scottish people that were the "pins" one year. I really know the pain of volunteers who were supposed to return the rental car used by our honoured guest on Sunday afternoon...but instead, called me the following Wednesday with the comment, "I forgot."

Volunteers ARE the lifeblood of Scottish Games. Please be one. Please be a responsible volunteer. If nobody will do it, Scottish games are doomed.

Glasgow Highland Games



2011 Games
Thursday, June 2nd
thru Sunday, June 5th, 2011

For complete Glasgow Highland Games
information contact:
ghg@glasgow-ky.com

Athletic Events

Caber Toss
Stone Toss (Clachneart)
Weight Toss
Sheaf Toss
Weight Throw
Hammer Throw
Masters,
Amateur &
Highland Wrestling



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The Kentucky Tourism Council has selected the
Glasgow Highland Games as a "Top Ten" Festival Event for the summer.

The 2011 Honored Clan is
Clan Fraser Society of NA

The 2011 Honored Society
is the St. Andrew's Society
of Evansville, IN & the Tri-States

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Returning for our
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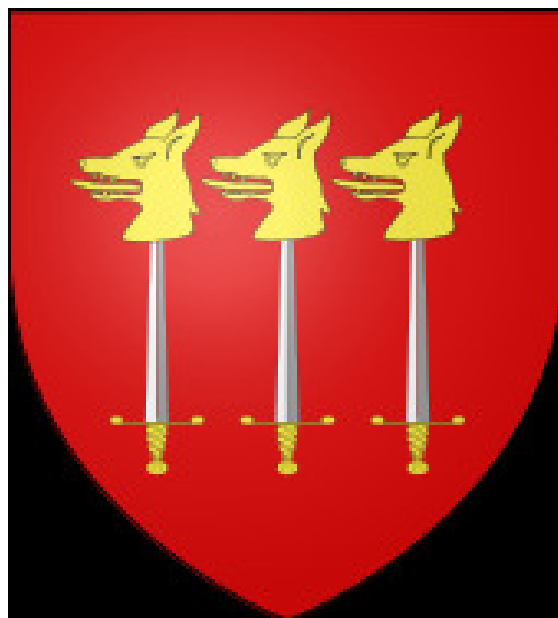
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\$35.00 total!

Clan Skene Association, Inc.

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Dorna Comp, president
103 Sumners Alley
Summerville, SC 29485
(dkc1027@yahoo.com)



Danus George Moncreiff Skene of Skene
Chief of the Name and Arms of Skene

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Flowers of the Forest



Marialyce Kennedy Shaw, age 82, died on December 1, 2010 at the Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara.

She is survived by her husband Howard E. Shaw; daughter Mary Louise Tumbiolo; three sons: Howard Randall, Raymund Oneil, and Marcus; nine grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; and she has three sisters: Carole, Catherine and Miriam Kennedy.

There was a memorial service in Mid-January to celebrate Marialyce and Howard's 62nd anniversary.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Catholic Charities of Lompoc.

Your editor simply has to add that Howard and Marialyce Shaw came to the Scottish Weekend when we honored Clan Chattan as Howard was the president of that organization for many, many years.

The weekend happened to fall on their wedding anniversary, so we just transformed our Saturday night Gala Dinner & Ceilidh to honor them. I'm trying to remember and think it was one of those very significant anniversaries, and I'm thinking it was their Golden Wedding Anniversary. (If you remember differently, please let me know.)

Howard and Marialyce were a very special couple. Howard has been blind for a very long time and the two of them worked together so flawlessly that unless you knew that Howard could not see - you would never guess. I remember being so charmed by their loving kindness to each other and their obvious affection for each other. What wonderful friends they have been.

My heart goes out to you, Howard, and your wonderful family too.

THE CRAWFORD SURNAME Y-DNA PROJECT

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Kevan Crawford, Ph.D. at:

Kevan@clancrawford.org



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Beth's Newfangled Family Tree Section A April 2011 Page 25

lated into Scots, the language of the Lowlanders, including Chaucer, Aesop, and The Aenid. A specific Scottish phenomenon called Flyting (spelled FLYTING) developed. This was actually 'fighting with words' and took place between two poets or bards and consisted of derogatory verses flung at each other. Philosophy, music, literature, education, and architecture flourished in the reigns of these two James, especially the younger.

Much of what remains of Stirling Castle was built or rebuilt during this period, on top of fortifications that had been there since the 11th century at the foot of the Highlands. The Royal Palace built there between 1540 and 1542 is widely regarded as having the finest Renaissance architecture in Europe.

Renaissance math in Scotland was used for more accurate cannons, bigger warships, new and better designed for fortifications, and royal power increased over the nobles. There were tournaments, feasting displays of power, and ever increasing taxation. The Age of Chivalry also flourished. During James IV's rule compulsory education was initiated for the landed classes.

However, James the IV had one problem, which was to prove his downfall - and essentially the end of the Renaissance movement for Scotland. He was in alliance with France, as Scotland had been many times in its history, so when England declared war against France, James was persuaded to declare war against England, whose new king was his brother-in-law, Henry the VIII.

James was killed at Flodden in the Lowlands of Scotland in 1513 and took with him many of the Nobles of Scotland along with top bishops in the Church of Scotland in a land where the church was responsible for the education, culture, welfare, and discipline of the general populace.

His son, James V, was a young child who later sought to battle Henry in 1542 and was also killed, leaving the infant, Mary, Queen of Scots as heir to the throne of Scotland. Both the English and the French then battled for Mary, since she had a rightful claim to the throne of England also. Her mother sent her to France for safety, and there is where she grew up as a Catholic.

In England, when Henry the VIII died his son Edward I ruled for 6 years, dying at the age of 16, followed by his elder daughter, Mary, who ruled for 5 years, and then in 1558 by Elizabeth I, under whom England would take great strides into the modern world.

Scotland at this time was being ruled by regents for Mary who remained in France and had wed Francois, heir to the throne of France.

In 1559 a group of Scot nobles, led by John Knox, overthrew the regents for Mary, including her mother, and the Scottish Parliament renounced the authority of the Pope over Scottish affairs. This was the Scotland that Mary returned to a year later after the death of her husband, to take up her role as queen, a Catholic queen to a Protestant



nation.

Though Mary continued introducing culture into the royal court, few notable strides were made during her reign. She made mistakes in marriages and alliances and in 1567 her own nobles again rose against her and she was forced to abdicate in favor of her son, James VI, who was an infant.

After 6 years of civil war Mary fled to England to seek the protection of her cousin, Elizabeth, who fearing a religious upheaval in her own Protestant country imprisoned her for 19 years and then beheaded her for treason.

Continued on page 27



Mary's son, James VI, in the meantime had been taken under the wing and tutored by one of Europe's most brilliant Renaissance scholars, George Buchanan, who had been his mother's court poet - and who also had been much in favor of her overthrow.

During this time Edinburgh University was founded, but the period also saw very little change compared to the period when his grandfather had reigned.

In England, under Elizabeth's rule the Renaissance period continued in full glory for many years. Thus when one thinks of the Renaissance in Britain it is the Elizabethan Era that comes to most people's mind with most likely no thoughts of the advances in Scotland before her time. In fact, I believe that with the picture that most people have of the people of Scotland in that era that they would be amazed to know that the Renaissance movement even passed through Scotland at all.



Paleography subject of JGS April 16 meeting

The Jacksonville Genealogical Society will hold their monthly meeting at the Webb-Wesconnett Branch Library, 6887 103rd Street, Jacksonville, Fl., at 1:30 p.m. on April 16th, 2011.

We are fortunate to have as our speaker Karen Rhodes. Her topic: Paleography. The presentation covers Spanish and English, mainly because the letter forms are quite similar, and some of the abbreviations are also quite similar. She will show examples of both Spanish and English with documents in Spanish dating from



about 1526 and English from 1604, and then move into later colonial and early American periods.

Karen will also cover briefly the training and tools of the scribes and some of the basic principles of reading as well as the writing itself.

For additional information or questions please contact: Jim Laird, (904) 264-0743.

Clan Davidson Society, USA, Inc.

www.clandavidsonusa.com



COME JOIN US! The Clan Davidson Society, USA, Inc. will be sponsoring an *International Gathering of Clan Davidson* on the 2nd weekend of June (**June 10, 11 & 12**), 2011. The event will be held in conjunction with the Kansas City Scottish Highland Games.

Richard Halliley, President
5650 Harmony Bend
Braselton, GA 30517
gahalliley@gmail.com

Dave Chagnon, Membership
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sennachie@earthlink.net

Clan Davidson Society, USA invites all Davidson's and Septs of the clan to membership:
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If you would like to see your own clan information on these pages, please write
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The Official Clan Macfie Facebook page is up!

Glen Cathey has recently put up
The Official Clan Macfie Facebook page
and it is ready for you to join and participate.

You can see some Youtube of the Clan Parliament at Nethybridge. This is the link: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Official-Clan-Macfie-Page/177565770680>



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We wish ye a neuk on the sunny side,
Wi' muckle o' love and little o' care,
A wee bit pursie wi' siller tae spare,
Yer ain wee ingle when day is spent,
In a wee bit housie wi' hearts content.***

With thanks to The St. Andrew's Cross from the St. Andrew's Society of Tallahassee, Florida

Traditional Scottish Recipes

Baked Salmon

with Tarragon

Baking salmon in kitchen foil seals in the juices and flavour of the fish and the tarragon. The quantities below are sufficient for four people.

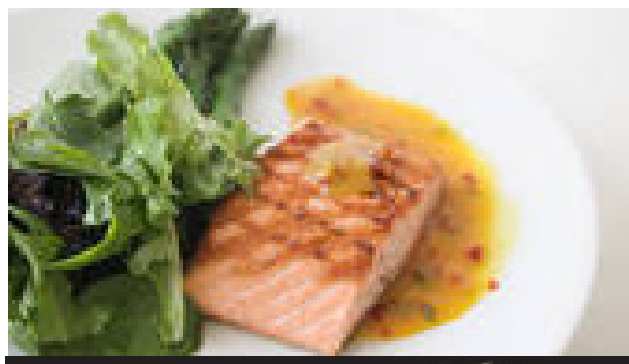
Ingredients:

- 4 salmon fillets
- 1 small, finely chopped onion
- 2 slices of thin bacon, diced
- 3 ounces (90g or ¾ stick) butter
- Quarter teaspoon dried tarragon
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- Large sheet of buttered kitchen foil
- Double cream or crème fraîche

Method: Pre-heat the oven to 400F (200C or Gas Mark 6). Fry the finely chopped onion in butter in a pan until soft and golden (but not burnt). Add the bacon and tarragon and cook for another two minutes; then stir in the lemon juice.

Place a large piece of buttered kitchen foil in an ovenproof dish, place the salmon fillets on this and cover with the onion and bacon mixture. Fold over the foil and seal to make a parcel. Bake for 15-20 minutes.

Serve with a teaspoonful of thick cream or crème fraîche and fresh vegetables.



The Shield of
Thomas Randolph
as Earl of Moray

Captured at Methven in the debacle that all but ended the reign of Robert the Bruce, the king's nephew Thomas Randolph was forced by his captors to track his king and the Army of Bruce. His heart still yearned for Scotland to be free, and at Loudoun Plain, he calmly turned his back to the English and rode across the battlefield to rejoin the Scots and stand against Edward's army.
Find out more about the epic story at....

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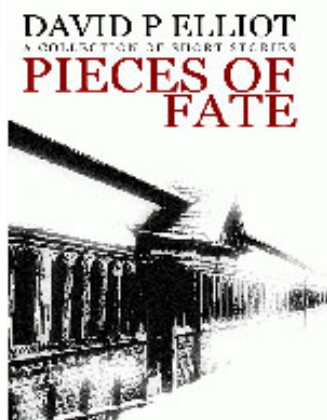
Family names associated with Clan MacTavish:
Cash, Kash, MacCamish, MacCash, MacCavish, MacComb, MacCombie, MacComich, MacComish, MaComie, Macomie, MacCosh, MacLaws, MacElhose, MacLehose, MacTavish, McTavish, Mactavish, Mactavis, M'Tavish, MacThomas, Stephens, Stephenson, Stevens, Stevenson, Tavish, Tawesson, Thom, Thomas, Thomason, Thomasson, Thompson, Thomson, Tod, and Todd, and all variant spellings.

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The New collection of short stories by David P Elliot in the great tradition of British Short Story telling..

Pieces of Fate - David P Elliot

'Pieces of Fate' is a collection of six short stories by David P Elliot which may be described as of the 'Tales of the Unexpected' genre.

Only 'Caroline' has been published before having been originally written as an entry for the BBC Short Story competition for 2010, it did not win, but was subsequently released as an e-book.

'Medusa' is a story that has its genesis in the author's previous career in the IT industry. From an original idea the author had in the 1980s before the modern computer games industry became the massive global business it currently is.

'The Cottage' is the first of two tales in this anthology which explores an investigation into a modern day alleged haunting incident. Although the name of the house has been changed The Cottage of the story is based on a local Oxfordshire property where the

author once lived and was purported to be haunted.

The title of the fourth tale, 'Shark', is derived from the occupation of the main protagonist, a loan shark called Gary Bowler who preys on the weak and vulnerable.

'The Thief in the Waiting Room' was the response to a challenge thrown out to the author to come up with a story which included 'a thief', 'a waiting room' and 'a flat tyre' in ten minutes. This was the result. Whilst the idea was established in the 10 minute time scale the actual writing took a further 60 minutes to actually put down on paper.

The final story, 'Long Alley' is also local to the author and uses real locations and an actual historical event as the backdrop for another modern day haunting. Readers may wish to read 'The Cottage' first as a prologue to this story.

http://www.redcapbooks.com/piecesoffate_book.html



Flowers of the Forest

Dan L. Titus of Dawsonville, Georgia, passed away March 3, 2011. Dan was a Vietnam Veteran and went to Antarctica in the Coast Guard, retired from the U. S. Navy and Lockheed. He played the bagpipes for 42 years with local Atlanta pipe bands for military ceremonies and on the Arizona Memorial and was piper to The 78th Frasers.

Dan loved to tell jokes and make people

laugh.

He is survived by his daughter, Emily Titus Long, son in law, Jacob Long and two granddaughters all of Canton, Georgia.

A graveside service with military honors was held Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at Georgia National Cemetery in Canton.

Dan requested donations be made to the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance, www.cgmahq.org.

Frank Shaw, FSA Scot, sent along this excellent picture of the Robert Burns Stained Glass Window at the University of Glasgow for Alastair at <http://www.electricscotland.com> Thanks to Alastair and to Frank and also the University of Glasgow for allowing us to use it here as well.





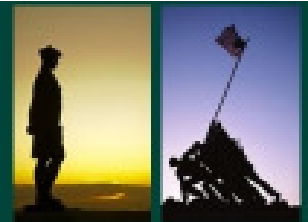
Greenville

Scottish Games May 27th and 28th 2011

Greenville, South Carolina on the campus of Furman University



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Family Tree DNA is the foremost company in the field of Genetic Genealogy. We have the largest comparative database of its kind in the world which is one reason 9 out of 10 genealogists choose Family Tree DNA.

SEARCH A SURNAME

With tens of thousands of people tested, your client's surname could already be part of a DNA project. If not, there are still different ways for one to get started with DNA. Family Tree DNA provides a spectrum of management tools for those interested in focusing on a surname or region to determine who is related to whom.



Work With Us to Extend Your Toolbox

DNA has led to many discoveries, and it could lead to many more.

FAMILY TREE DNA ALLOWS YOU TO:

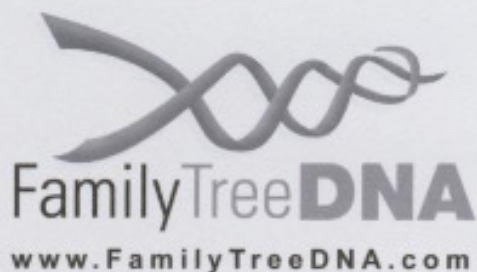
- Determine if two people share a common ancestor
- Confirm connections in a family tree
- Trace family lineages
- Prove or disprove a research theory
- Find others to whom someone could be related to
- Verify Native American or Cohanim ancestry
- Obtain clues about ethnic origin.

THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY FOR YOUR GENEALOGY

Contact us for more information about how we can work together: projects@familytreedna.com or call us at 713.868.1438

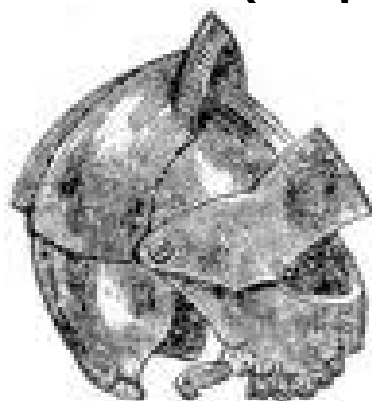
THE SIZE OF THE DATABASE MATTERS

A genetic genealogy database is only as valuable as its size. The smaller the database the more limited the results, but the larger the database the richer the experience. Family Tree DNA has the largest comparative database in the world, with over 150,000 records and counting.



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